(b) whether certain social activists of the Lok Sevak Sangh and other organisations reportedly have threatened to undertake "fast unto death" over this inordinate delay in legislation of above mentioned Bill; and

(c) if so, Government's reaction thereto alongwith reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) to (c) The National Common Minimum Programme of the Government envisages that the Lokpal Bill will be enacted into law. The Government has initiated action to bring forward the Lokpal Bill, 2004.

Action against tainted officers

2321. SHRI JIBON ROY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Chief Vigilance Commissioner had sent a list of 371 tainted officers to P.M.O. during the tenure of N.D.A. Government; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken by N.D.A. Government on this report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) and (b) As per the information given by the Central Vigilance Commission, it has not sent any such list to the P.M.O.

Corrupt officials

†2322. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that administrative officers on higher posts in the country have been found involved in corruption charges during last years;

(b) if so, the total number of officers found involved in corruption charges during the years 2002, 2003 and 2004; and

(c) the number of officers, out of them, who belongs to Revenue, Administration and Police Department, separately?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) to (c) As per the information provided by the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC), the CVC has recommended prosecution in respect of 265 Group 'A' Officers during the years 2002, 2003 and 2004. Of these, 15 officers belong to Police Department and 31 officers belong to Revenue Department.

Funds for Maharashtra

2323. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the allocation of funds during 2004-05 for Maharashtra;

(b) the set of schemes for which the funds were provided; and

(c) the progress of the works under implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) The projected outlay for Annual Plan 2004-05 of Maharashtra is Rs. 9446.73 crore consisting of the State's Own Resources of Rs. 6195.80 crore and Central Assistance of Rs. 3250.93 crore. Of the Central Assistance of Rs. 3250.93 crore, Rs. 1108.02 crore is Normal Central Assistance; Rs. 680.28 crore is for Externally Aided Projects and the balance Rs. 1462.63 crore is for other specific schemes.

(b) The Normal Central Assistance to State Plans are provided as block loans and block grants and it is for the State Government to allocate the funds for various schemes as per their priorities, in consultation with the Planning Commission. However, the Government of Maharashtra has not yet submitted the detailed break-up of schemes and outlays for Annual Plan 2004-05 to the Planning Commission for its approval.

(c) The Government of Maharashtra has reported a total expenditure of Rs. 2405.15 crore up to November 19, 2004, during Annual Plan 2004-05.

National Committee on Rural Infrastructure

2324. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the responsibilities of the newly constituted National Committee on Rural Infrastructure; and